

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A spare tire holder for a vehicle such as a pickup truck having a tailgate and having a rear mounted hitch receiver comprising:

an upright portion comprising:

a horizontally disposed hitch receiver insert member having a front insert end and a rear outer end; and

a vertically disposed channel member having a front wall and opposing side walls, an upper end and a lower end, and being connected perpendicular to said outer end of said insert portion at said lower end thereof;

said channel member defining a horizontally aligned pivot bores in said opposing side walls and spaced upward from said insert member;

said channel member defining horizontally aligned securing bores in said opposing side walls and spaced upward from said pivot bores;

said channel member being of such length that when said insert member is inserted in said hitch receiver, said upper end is spaced below the pickup tailgate;

a pivoting portion comprising:

a vertical member having a rectangular cross section having and having an upper end and a curved lower end;

23 said vertical member being so sized and configured
24 as to fit between said opposing sides of said upright
25 portion channel member;

26 said vertical member defining a horizontally
27 disposed pivot bore spaced above said curved lower end;

28 said vertical member defining a horizontally
29 disposed securing bore spaced above said pivot bore;

30 a horizontally disposed support arm having a front
31 end and a rear end, said rear end being connected
32 perpendicular to said vertical member and spaced above
33 said securing bore;

34 a vertically disposed spare tire mounting plate
35 having a front side and a rear side, said rear side
36 having a central portion, said central portion being
37 connected perpendicular to said rear end of said support,
38 said vertically disposed mounting plate having a
39 plurality of lugs extending rearward from said rear side
40 and so arranged as to receive corresponding lug bores of
41 a spare tire rim;

42 said support arm being of such a length as to
43 provide clearance between a spare tire mounted on said
44 mounting plate and said pivoting portion vertical member;

45 a pivot bolt extending through said pivot bores of said
46 upright portion vertical channel member and said pivot bores of
47 said pivoting portion vertical member;

48 said lower curved end of said vertical channel member being so
49 configured as to allow said pivoting portion vertical member to
50 rotate toward the rear to a horizontal position;

51 said securing bores of said channel member and said pivoting
52 portion vertical member being so positioned as to be aligned to
53 receive a securing pin; and

54 a securing pin removably mounted within said securing bores of
55 said vertical channel member and said pivoting portion vertical
56 member

57 whereby, upon removal of said securing pin from said securing
58 bores, said pivoting portion of said spare tire holder may be
59 rotated along with the spare tire to the rear to a horizontal
60 position thus providing clearance for the lowering of the tailgate
61 of the pickup truck to be lowered from a vertical closed position
62 to a horizontal open position.

1 2. The spare tire holder of claim 1, wherein said lower
2 curved end of said pivoting portion vertical member is so
3 configured as to interfere with said vertical channel member front
4 wall at a point where said pivoting portion vertical member is
5 rotated to a horizontal position, thus maintaining said pivoting
6 portion vertical member and the attached spare tire at a horizontal
7 position.

1 3. A spare tire holder for a vehicle such as a pickup truck
2 having a tailgate and having a rear mounted hitch receiver
3 comprising:

4 as vertical member having a hitch receiving member for
5 mounting on the rear of a vehicle; and

6 a pivoting member pivotally attached to said vertical member
7 at a first end thereof;

8 said pivoting member having a spare tire mounting plate
9 attached at a second end thereof;

10 whereby said pivoting member may be rotated between a vertical
11 position rearward to a horizontal position so as to provide
12 clearance for the opening of the pickup truck tailgate from a
13 vertical closed position to a horizontal open position.